

# SAFETY ON THE LINE

A service of the NASA KSC Safety and Mission Assurance Directorate

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**"If you think education is expensive, try ignorance."**

Derek Bok

## Super Safety Day Question & Answer



### QUESTION:

For years the buildings at KSC were equipped with fire hoses. They seemed to be a good idea at the time so why were they removed ?

### ANSWER:

In accordance with NHB 1700.1 (V1-B), it is NASA policy to ensure employees, other than trained professional firefighters, trained volunteers, or emergency response personnel, do not fight fires except in cases where the fire is in its beginning stages. This policy was developed with OSHA 1910.156 in mind which states; "The employer shall assure that employees who are expected to do interior structural fire fighting are physically capable of, trained for, and equipped to perform this duty." At KSC, full-time firefighters respond to fire calls as employees are not expected, or trained, to fight fires. To decrease maintenance and increase worker safety, a decision was made to remove the hoses from the cabinets. Firefighters bring hoses off the fire vehicles and attach them to the connectors in the hose boxes now located inside KSC facilities.

This Super Safety Day question answered by Michael Stevens,  
Lead, NASA Fire and Emergency Services. Call him at 867-3795 for more information.

We have heard it before...but it's true.  
Only by **you personally getting involved**  
can something be improved. A recent

## GET INVOLVED !



example was an employee, who after reading an article about crosswalk safety in the second issue, e-mailed us with his concerns about the crosswalk between the O&C building and the SSPF. He stated that trucks, tour buses, and cars frequently pass through this location at high speed while pedestrians attempt to cross four lanes of traffic. We placed him in touch with SGS, formally EG&G, to determine what could be improved in this area. SGS has since installed pedestrian crosswalk signs to warn motorists of pedestrians and are looking at other measures, such as reviewing the O&C parking lot traffic flow patterns, to determine what changes could be made that would improve pedestrian safety. This resulted in improving the safety and health for all employees. But what was more important was that **AN EMPLOYEE DID GET INVOLVED** and took the time to start the improvement process. So now the question is...

Do you know of a process or a condition that could be improved at KSC?  
If so, take that first step and get involved!

Can you  
check this?

Are your fire extinguishers charged and intact?

Area Safety  
Checklist  
# FP 102



Do you have questions, comment, or an article you would like to submit? Contact Marguerite or Alan at 867-3311, fax number 867-3583, mail code EI-HF or e-mail them at "Safety on the Line" found in your global address list. Safety on the Line is also on the Web. Go to the KSC home page, then click on KSC internal page, then find us under NASA/KSC news.